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Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

Future trends in geospatial information management**Future trends in geospatial information management****Note by the Secretariat**

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management its report on future trends in geospatial information management, which is available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html). The Committee of Experts is invited to endorse the background document and to propose a time frame for its revision.

Summary of the report

In its report, the Secretariat seeks endorsement from the Committee of Experts of the background document entitled "Future trends in geospatial information management: the 5- to 10-year vision", which was prepared by a working group established after the first session of the Committee of Experts, held in October 2011. The working group was tasked with considering technological and substantive advances in geospatial and interrelated information infrastructures and providing a strategic vision to address emerging trends over the next 5 to 10 years. A draft of the background document was presented to the Committee of Experts at its second session, held in August 2012, following a global consultation process and an informal workshop conducted in April 2012 by a visioning group established within the working group.

The report summarizes the consultation process and the deliberations undertaken since the second session. The background document provides a detailed analysis of the five broad themes and trends identified by the working group, as follows: technology and the future direction of data creation, maintenance and

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management; legal and policy developments; skills requirements and training mechanisms; the role of the private and non-government sectors; and the future role of Governments in geospatial data provision and management. The document provides important technical information to guide the future work programme of the Committee of Experts and the preparations by Member States of their geospatial information strategies and plans.
